

What is claimed is:

1           1.       A method of controlling a dishwasher, comprising steps of:  
2           supplying water to a washtub for a first predetermined time period;  
3           driving a wash motor when the first predetermined time period has elapsed;  
4           determining an electrical characteristic of said driven wash motor;  
5           comparing a value indicative of the determined electrical characteristic with a  
6           predetermined value indicative of a desired electrical characteristic of said wash motor; and  
7           discontinuing said water supplying step if the determined electrical characteristic  
8           value is not less than the predetermined value for a second predetermined time period.

1           2.       The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a step of stopping said  
2           wash motor and simultaneously displaying a water supply error message if the determined  
3           electrical characteristic value fails to reach the predetermined value before a lapse of a third  
4           predetermined time period.

1           3.       The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the determined electrical  
2           characteristic is detected by current detection means.

1           4.       A dishwasher comprising:  
2           a washtub for holding tableware;  
3           a wash motor, installed in said washtub, for actuating a wash pump;  
4           a detector for detecting an electrical characteristic of said wash motor;  
5           a controller, coupled to said wash motor, for outputting a valve control signal based

6 on the detected electrical characteristic of said wash motor; and  
7 a solenoid valve for controlling a water supply to said washtub based on the valve  
8 control signal output from said controller.